1	2	3	4	5	6
28	West Bengal	353.10	805.23	265.00	1423.33
29	A&N Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
30	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31	D&N Haveli	27.76	0.00	0.00	27.76
32	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
33	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34	Pondicherry	18.15	87.20	0.00	105.35
35	Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL:	6787.43	9090.71	11929.33	27807.47

Meeting on promoting use of manure and other organic fertilizers

†2754. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering or would consider to convene a meeting at Centre level at the earliest to hold discussion on promoting use of manure and other organic fertilizers keeping in view the decreasing production per acre and abundance of imported material in chemical fertlizers;

(b) whether Government are considering to formulate a concrete and long term action plan to provide necessary information to the States in order to enhance agricultural yield by convening a meeting in consultation with research institutes and agricultural universities so as to fulfil the said purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government for holding discussions on promoting use of manure and other organic fertilizers. However, the matter is regularly discussed in half yearly Zonal Input Conferences and National Conferences with State Governments and Union Territotries.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) and (c) The Government is already making the following efforts to promote use of organic manures:—

(i) The Government is promoting Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) which envisage soil test based judicious use of chemical fertilizers in conjuction with organic manures and bio-fertilizers.

(ii) Financial assistance for setting up of mechanized compost plants for conversion of bio-degradable city waste into compost is being provided under the scheme "Balanced and Integrated Use of Fertilizers", now subsumed under the Macro-Management of Agriculture Scheme.

(iii) The Government has taken up a central sector scheme "National Project on Organic Farming", under which subsidy for setting up of organic input production units @25% of the project cost upto a miximum of Rs. 40.00 lakhs per unit for fruit/vegetable waste compost units, Rs. 20.00 lakhs per unit for bio-fertilizer production units and Rs. 150 lakhs per unit for Vermiculture hatcheries is being provided as credit linked and back ended subsidy through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC).

(d) Question does not arise.

Separate Agricultural Policy for hilly States

†2755. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to different circumstances and different landscape in hilly States the Government are considering upon a Separate Agricultural policy for these States;

(b) if so, the salient feature of this policy; and

(c) the names of crops which are being promoted in the hilly States keeping in view the difference between hilly States and plain areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, in order to harness the potential of horticulture in the North Eastern region, Government of India, in 2001-02, sanctioned a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Technology

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.